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Viewing cable 09STOCKHOLM66, DEFENSE MINISTER DISCUSSES ISAF, KFOR WITH CDA

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

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If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#09STOCKHOLM66**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09STOCKHOLM66	2009-01-30 16:54	2011-08-30 01:44	SECRET	Embassy Stockholm

Appears in these articles:

http://svtplay.se/v/2256485/dokument_inifran/de_hemliga_telegrammen

VZCZCXRO9560
PP RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHNP RUEHPW RUEHROV
DE RUEHSM #0066 0301654
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
P 301654Z JAN 09
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4076
INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO BRUSSELS BE PRIORITY

S E C R E T STOCKHOLM 000066

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/30/2019

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SUBJECT: DEFENSE MINISTER DISCUSSES ISAF, KFOR WITH CDA

Classified By: CDA Robert Silverman for reasons 1.4 (B) & (D).

¶1. (S) On January 30, CDA, DAO and poloff met with Minister of Defense Sten Tolgfors. CDA thanked Sweden for its continued contributions to ISAF and KFOR and said the U.S. supports expansion of Sweden's international military operations. Tolgfors' points were:

-- ISAF: Tolgfors said possible areas for increased Swedish support in Afghanistan include C-130s and OMLTs. The three medevac helos already committed are delayed not for political reasons, but for technical reasons.

-- Afghanistan Northern Transportation Routes: Tolgfors expressed interest in any plans the U.S. has to expand transportation/convoy routes in northern Afghanistan, based on press reports of U.S. discussions with Russia and Central Asia countries. Tolgfors is concerned about the potential security impact such would have on Sweden's PRT in Mazar-e-Sharif.

-- Nordic Defense Cooperation: Tolgfors repeatedly stressed the importance of NDC and the potential it has to enhance interoperability and capacity. He said NDC is "key for us in the future" but it still must be developed fully. He looked forward to EUCOM support.

-- AESA: When Tolgfors asked about the status of the radar, CDA said the Department of Defense has given a green light to develop an export version, though approval would depend on the proposal developed by industry. Now industry must decide if and how to proceed.

-- KFOR: There is a domestic political division over KFOR. Tolgfors said the opposition Social Democrats wanted Sweden to pull out its troops on January 1, 2009, but the governing Alliance successfully pushed to prolong the deployment. Tolgfors said more EU military and civil assistance is needed in Kosovo, especially economic development to integrate with the EU.

-- C-17 and A-400: The C-17 sharing agreement is a "breakthrough in Sweden's cooperation with NATO" and the structure should be applied to other fields of cooperation, Tolgfors stated. Joint European military capacity-building is important. He said many other Europeans are looking at the A-400 for future use, as it would facilitate European cooperation and increase tactical air lift capacity, an increasingly important issue.

-- Baltic Air Policing: Tolgfors said the Czechs are using the Gripen in their policing operations. Asked whether Sweden might participate in the future, Tolgfors said Sweden has "political problems" policing in the Baltic.

-- ESDP: Tolgfors said, "As the French EU presidency placed importance on expanding European military capacity, so will the Swedish presidency."

12. (C) Comment: Tolgfors hinted that improving military capability is a principal goal in Sweden's international cooperation, but we note that unfortunately it is sometimes overshadowed by arguments over which national military industry should get a contract.

SILVERMAN